

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

August 13, 2018

# A. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Project Title/	Project Goal	Estimated	Status
Manager; Board	(Description)	Completion	
Committee	ADMINISTRATION COMM	Date	
4 Marletones		1	1
1. Workforce	Participate in DMV's effort to update	November 2018	In progress.
Succession Planning	the Department's Workforce and Succession Plan, applicable also to		DMV's Enterprise Risk Management
Tim Corcoran;	the NMVB. The plan will be aimed		Division is
Administration	at enhancing recruitment practices,		developing
Committee	reducing the length of time to hire,		proposed
	developing existing staff for upward		initiatives for
	mobility, and ensuring effective		consideration by
	knowledge transfer occurs within		DMV's executive
	the Department.		team.
2. Status Report	Annually letters are sent to all	January 2019	In progress. A
Concerning	licensed manufacturers and	,	status report
Manufacturer and	distributors requesting copies of		concerning
<b>Distributor</b>	their current delivery and inspection		manufacturer and
Compliance with	obligations ("PDI"), PDI schedule of		distributor
Vehicle Code	compensation, and warranty		compliance will be
<u>Sections</u>	reimbursement schedule or formula.		presented at the
3064/3074 and			January 24, 2019,
3065/3075 (Filing			General Meeting.
of Statutorily			
Required			
Schedules and Formulas)			
Danielle			
Phomsopha;			
Administration			
Committee			
3. <u>Update Guide</u>	Update the Guide to the New Motor	January 2019	In progress. The
to the New Motor	Vehicle Board to incorporate		revised Guide will
Vehicle Board	statutory and regulatory changes.		be presented at
Robin Parker;			the January 24,
Administration			2019, General
Committee			Meeting.
Revised Board	Consider revised policy that allows	March 2018	Completed
<u>Policy</u>	the parties to use or not use the		The revised policy
Concerning the	Board's contracted court reporter		was adopted at the
Allocation of	service. The revision would allow		March 13, 2018,
Court Reporter	additional flexibility with securing a		General Meeting.
Fees in Hearings	court reporter qualified to provide		
Robin Parker;	the services requested.		
Administration			

Project Title/ Manager; Board Committee	Project Goal (Description)	Estimated Completion Date	Status
Committee			
	BOARD DEVELOPMENT CO	MMITTEE	
1. Solon C. Soteras Employee Recognition Award Recipient Tim Corcoran; Board Development Committee	Compile the nominations provided by staff and select a nominee for the Solon C. Soteras Employee Recognition Award.	August 2018	In progress. The Committee will select a nominee for the Board to consider at the August 13, 2018 General Meeting.
2. Schedule Board Member Education Presentations Danielle Phomsopha; Board Development Committee	Develop a schedule for prioritizing topics and speakers for Board member education presentations for upcoming meetings.	November 2018	In progress. A schedule of topics and speakers for Board member education will be presented for discussion at the November 7, 2018, General Meeting.
Host Board Administrative Law Judge Roundtable Robin Parker; Board Development Committee	Host a Board Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") Roundtable for purposes of education and training. Provide an opportunity for the ALJs to meet in an informal setting, exchange ideas, and offer suggestions to improve the case management hearing process.	May 2018	Completed The ALJ Roundtable was held on May 7, 2018, with all of the Board's ALJs in attendance.
	FISCAL COMMITTE		
1. Quarterly Fiscal Reports Dawn Kindel, Suzanne Luke; Fiscal Committee	Quarterly fiscal reports will be provided to the Committee and scheduled for upcoming Board meetings.	Ongoing	In progress. The 1st and 2nd quarter reports for fiscal year 2017/18 were presented at the January 24, and March 13, 2018, General Meetings. The 3rd and 4th quarter reports are set for August 13 and November 7,

Project Title/ Manager; Board	Project Goal (Description)	Estimated Completion	Status		
Committee	(E scenipalent)	Date			
			2018.		
2. Status Report on the Collection of Fees for the Arbitration Certification Program Dawn Kindel, Suzanne Luke; Fiscal Committee	The staff will provide a report concerning the annual fee collection for the Department of Consumer Affairs, Arbitration Certification Program.	August 2018	In progress. A status report will be provided at the August 13, 2018, General Meeting.		
3. Proposed Board Budget for the Next Fiscal Year Dawn Kindel, Suzanne Luke; Fiscal Committee	The staff in conjunction with the Fiscal Committee will discuss and consider the Board's proposed Budget for fiscal year 2017-2018.	August 2018	In progress. The 2017-2018 Budget will be presented at the August 13, 2018, General Meeting.		
4. Annual Discussion and Consideration of the Methods for Determining Board Fees Tim Corcoran; Fiscal Committee	In response to Board Member Brooks' request, a memorandum outlining how the Board fees are calculated every year to ensure the fees are not a tax and are costjustified, will be presented for Board consideration.	August 2018	In progress. A memorandum will be presented at the August 13, 2018, General Meeting.		
	GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY AFF	AIRS COMMITTEE			
1. Host Industry Roundtable Tim Corcoran, Dawn Kindel, Danielle Phomsopha; Government and Industry Affairs Committee	Host the traditional Industry Roundtable with representatives from car, truck, motorcycle and recreational vehicle manufacturers/ distributors, dealers, in-house and outside counsel, associations and other government entities.	2019	In progress. The Industry Roundtable is being postponed until 2019. A memorandum will be presented at the August 13, 2018, General Meeting.		

Project Title/	Project Goal	Estimated	Status				
Manager; Board Committee	(Description)	Completion Date	Otatus				
	POLICY AND PROCEDURE COMMITTEE						
1. Update the Informational Guide for Manufacturers and Distributors Robin Parker; Policy and Procedure Committee	Update the Informational Guide for Manufacturers and Distributors.	January 2019	In progress. The updated Guide will be considered at the January 24, 2019, General Meeting.				
2. Annual Rulemaking Calendar Danielle Phomsopha; Policy and Procedure Committee	Consideration of the annual rulemaking calendar.	January 2019	In progress. The 2019 Rulemaking Calendar will be considered at the January 24, 2019, General Meeting.				
3. Update the Export or Sale- For-Resale Prohibition Policy Guide Robin Parker; Policy and Procedure Committee	Update the Export or Sale-For- Resale Prohibition Policy Guide for Vehicle Code section 3085 protests filed by an association, as defined.	January 2019	In progress. The Guide will be considered at the January 24, 2019, General Meeting.				
4. Report on the Assignment of Cases to Board Administrative Law Judges Danielle Phomsopha; Policy and Procedure Committee	Annual report on the assignment of cases to Board Administrative Law Judges ("ALJs").	January 2019	In progress. A report on the assignment of cases to Board ALJs will be presented at the January 24, 2019, General Meeting.				

Project Title/ Manager; Board Committee	Project Goal (Description)	Estimated Completion Date	Status
5. Promulgate Proposed Regulations to Amend the Peremptory Challenge Regulation Danielle Phomsopha; Policy and Procedure Committee	In compliance with the Administrative Procedure Act, amend the peremptory challenge regulation to eliminate the requirement of a declaration of prejudice and use language nearly identical to the Office of Administrative Hearings ("OAH").	January 2019	In progress. The Board approved the text at the March 13, 2018, General Meeting. The Notice was published in the California Regulatory Notice Register on May 4, 2018. The public comment period ended on June 18, 2018, with no comments.
6. Promulgate Proposed Regulations to Add References to Code of Civil Procedure Section 1013b Danielle Phomsopha; Policy and Procedure Committee	In compliance with the Administrative Procedure Act, add references to Section 1013b of the California Code of Civil Procedure to Sections 551.14 (Request for Informal Mediation), 551.24 (Service; Proof of Service); 555.1(Service of Petition upon Respondent(s)); and 584 (Service of Protest upon Franchisor). These amendments were determined to be substantive by OAL.	January 2019	In progress. The Board approved the text at the March 13, 2018, General Meeting. The Notice was published in the California Regulatory Notice Register on June 15, 2018. The public comment period ended on July 30, 2018, with no comments.

Project Title/ Manager; Board Committee	r; Board (Description)		Status
Amend the Peremptory Challenge Regulation to Limit to Merits Hearings and Make Other Changes Consistent with the Office of Administrative Hearings Robin Parker; Policy and Procedure Committee	In an effort to continue to improve and clarify the Board's case management processes, the Board staff has proposed amending the peremptory challenge regulation to eliminate the requirement of a declaration of prejudice and use language nearly identical to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH). It is necessary for the Board to deviate slightly from OAH's regulation due to the increased number of law and motion matters filed with the Board and the limited number of ALJs available to hear such motions. Given these differences, the proposed amendments bar peremptory challenges of law and motion and	March 2018	Completed The proposed text was adopted at the March 13, 2018, General Meeting.
Update New Motor Vehicle Board Administrative Law Judges Benchbook Robin Parker; Policy and Procedure Committee	settlement conference ALJs.  Update the New Motor Vehicle Board Administrative Law Judge's Benchbook.	March 2018	Completed The Benchbook was adopted was adopted at the March 13, 2018, General Meeting.
Draft Proposed Regulations to Add References to Code of Civil Procedure Section 1013b Robin Parker, Policy and Procedure Committee	Section 1013b was added to the California Code of Civil Procedure effective January 1, 2018; it pertains to proof of electronic service. The non-substantive changes proposed incorporate this new provision in Sections 551.14 (Request for Informal Mediation), 551.24 (Service; Proof of Service); 555.1(Service of Petition upon	March 2018	Completed The proposed text was adopted at the March 13, 2018, General Meeting.

Project Title/ Manager; Board Committee	Project Goal (Description)  Respondent(s)); and 584 (Service	Estimated Completion Date	Status
	of Protest upon Franchisor.)		
	EXECUTIVE COMMIT	TEE	
Review the Board's Legislative Policy Tim Corcoran; Executive Committee	Review the Board's Legislative Policy that was created in 1996 in response to the Audit. Given the layers of communication and  November 2018  agendized for August 13,		In progress. This matter is being agendized for the August 13, 2018, General Meeting.
Rename Hearing Room # 1 "The William G. Brennan Hearing Room" Room" Tim Corcoran; Executive Committee  Rename Hearing Room # 1 "The William G. Brennan Hearing Room", in remembrance of the Board's previous Executive Director who passed away November 2, 2017.		March 2018	Completed Hearing Room # 1 was renamed "The William G. Brennan Hearing Room."

# B. CASE MANAGEMENT

# CASE VOLUME

#### February 28, 2018 through July 30, 2018

VEHICLE CODE SECTION	DESCRIPTION	New Cases	RESOLVED CASES	PENDING CASES
3060	Termination	4	10	7
3060	Modification	0	9	19
3062	Establishment	0	2	1
3062	Relocation	0	0	0
3062	Off-Site Sale	0	0	0
3064	Delivery/Preparation Obligations	0	0	0
3065	Warranty Reimbursement	0	1	2
3065.1	Incentive Program Reimbursement	10	6	11
3070	Termination	1	0	1
3070	Modification	0	0	0
3072	Establishment	0	0	0
3072	Relocation	0	0	0
3072	Off-Site Sale	0	0	0
3074	Delivery/Preparation Obligations	0	0	0
3075	Warranty Reimbursement	0	0	0
3076	Incentive Program Reimbursement	0	0	0
3085	Export or Sale-for-Resale	0	0	0
3050(c)	O(c) Petition		0	0
3050(b)	Appeal	0	0	0
	TOTAL CASES:	15	28	41

#### BY CASE NUMBER

ABBRE	ABBREVIATIONS						
ALJ	Administrative Law Judge	Bd.Mtg.	Board Meeting				
HRC	Hearing Readiness Conference	IFU	Informal Follow-Up				
MH	Merits Hearing	CMH	Continued Merits Hearing				
RMH	Resumed Merits Hearing	MSC	Mandatory Settlement Conference				
CMSC	Continued Mandatory Settlement Conference	RMSC	Resumed Mandatory Settlement Conference				
MTCP	Motion to Compel Production	MTC	Motion to Continue				
MTD	Motion to Dismiss	PHC	Pre-Hearing Conference				
CPHC	Continued Pre-Hearing Conference	RPHC	Resumed Pre-Hearing Conference				
PD	Proposed Decision	POS	Proof of Service				
PSDO	Proposed Stipulated Decision and Order	ROB	Ruling on Objections				
CROB	Continued Ruling on Objections	RROB	Resumed Ruling on Objections				
SC	Status Conference	CSC	Continued Status Conference				
RFD	Request for Dismissal						
* Consc	lidated, non-lead case	•					

#### **Protests**

	CASE Number/ Oate Filed	STATUS	Protest	Counsel	CASE Type
1.	PR-2422-15 3-3-15	RSC w/ALJ: 9-17-18 Parties are working on settlement	Walter Timmons Enterprises, Inc. dba Timmons Subaru v. Subaru of America, Inc.	P: Gavin Hughes R: Mo Sanchez, Lisa Gibson	Termination
2.	PR-2470-16 4-23-16	Order to Show Cause issued why this matter should not go to hearing 10-8-18	Brown Automotive, Inc. dba Puente Hills Nissan v. Nissan North America, Inc.	P: Victor Danhi R: Mo Sanchez, Kevin Colton	Warranty
3.	PR-2475-16 6-21-16 Re-opened 7-3-19	PSDO dispute Hearing: 8-28-18	Sunroad KMI Auto, Inc. dba Kearny Mesa Infiniti, a California corporation v. Nissan North America, Inc., a California corporation	P: Halbert B. Rasmussen R: Steve Kelso, Chris Montville, Bob Davies	Termination

I	CASE NUMBER/ DATE FILED	STATUS	Protest	Counsel	CASE Type
4.	PR-2478-16 8-11-16	Parties working on global settlement	West Covina Nissan, LLC v. Nissan North America, Inc.	P: David N. Tarlow, Ori Blumenfeld R: Gino Bulso, Mo Sanchez, Lisa Gibson, Crispin Collins	Warranty
5.	PR-2483-16 11-10-16	Proposed Decision August Board Meeting	Folsom Chevrolet, Inc., dba Folsom Chevrolet v. General Motors, LLC	P: Bert Rasmussen, George Koumbis, Franjo Dolenac R: Mark Clouatre, Jake Fischer, Bob Davies	Termination
6.	PR-2489-17 1-10-17	All Protestants signed a PSDO	Tulare SAG, Inc., dba Lampe Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram v. FCA US LLC	P: Gavin Hughes, Robert Mayville R: Maile Solis, Randy Oyler, Bob Davies, Mary Stewart	Modification
7.	PR-2491-17* 1-13-17	All Protestants signed a PSDO	Central Valley Automotive Inc., dba Central Valley Chrysler Jeep Dodge v. FCA US LLC	P: Gavin Hughes, Robert Mayville R: Maile Solis, Randy Oyler, Bob Davies, Mary Stewart	Modification
8.	PR-2492-17* 1-18-17	All Protestants signed a PSDO	Ellis Family Stores, LLC, a California limited liability company, dba Fiat of Glendale v. FCA US LLC, a Delaware limited liability company	P: Tim Robinett R: Maile Solis, Randy Oyler, Bob Davies, Mary Stewart	Modification
9.	PR-2393-17* 1-18-17	All Protestants signed a PSDO	Mossy Fiat v. FCA, US, LLC	P: Mark H. Nys R: Maile Solis, Randy Oyler, Bob Davies, Mary Stewart	Modification
10	. PR-2494-17* 1-18-17	All Protestants signed a PSDO	Mossy Alfa Romeo v. FCA, US, LLC	P: Mark H. Nys R: Maile Solis, Randy Oyler, Bob Davies, Mary Stewart	Modification

CASE NUMBER/ DATE FILED	STATUS	Protest	Counsel	CASE Type
11. PR-2497-17* 1-19-17	All Protestants signed a PSDO	SMAG LP dba Santa Maria FCA Dodge Jeep Ram Fiat v. Fiat Chrysler Automobiles US, LLC	P: Christian Scali, Bert Rasmussen R: Maile Solis, Randy Oyler, Bob Davies, Mary Stewart	Modification
12. PR-2499-17* 1-19-17	All Protestants signed a PSDO	Stevens Creek Luxury Imports, Inc. dba AutoNation Alfa Romeo Stevens Creek v. FCA US LLC	P: Gavin Hughes, Robert Mayville R: Maile Solis, Randy Oyler, Bob Davies, Mary Stewart	Modification
13. PR-2501-17 1-19-17	Case is tracking corresponding Alfa Romeo/Fiat matters	Stevens Creek Luxury Imports, Inc. dba AutoNation Maserati Stevens Creek v. Maserati North America, Inc.	P: Gavin Hughes, Robert Mayville R: Maile Solis, Randy Oyler, Bob Davies, Mary Stewart	Modification
14. PR-2502-17* 1-20-17	All Protestants signed a PSDO	Baker Motors, Inc., a California corporation, dba Bob Baker Fiat v. FCA US LLC, a Delaware limited liability company	P: Wade W. Paulson R: Maile Solis, Randy Oyler, Bob Davies, Mary Stewart	Modification
15. PR-2503-17* 1-20-17	All Protestants signed a PSDO	Baker Motors, Inc., a California corporation, dba Bob Baker Fiat Alfa Romeo v. FCA US LLC, a Delaware limited liability company	P: Wade W. Paulson R: Maile Solis, Randy Oyler, Bob Davies, Mary Stewart	Modification
16. PR-2504-17* 1-23-17	All Protestants signed a PSDO	Costa Arancione, LLC, a California limited liability company, dba Orange Coast Alfa Romeo and Fiat v. FCA, LLC	P: Gregory Ferruzzo R: Maile Solis, Randy Oyler, Bob Davies, Mary Stewart	Modification

CASE NUMBER/ DATE FILED	STATUS	Protest	Counsel	CASE Type
17. PR-2505-17* 1-23-17	All Protestants signed a PSDO	Costa Arancione, LLC, a California limited liability company, dba Orange Coast Alfa Romeo and Fiat v. FCA, LLC	P: Gregory Ferruzzo R: Maile Solis, Randy Oyler, Bob Davies, Mary Stewart	Modification
18. PR-2506-17* 1-23-17	Case is tracking corresponding Alfa Romeo/Fiat matters	Rusnak/Pasadena, dba Rusnak Maserati of Pasadena v. Maserati North America, Inc.	P: Christian Scali R: Maile Solis, Randy Oyler, Bob Davies, Mary Stewart	Modification
19. PR-2507-17* 1-23-17	All Protestants signed a PSDO	Rusnak/Pasadena dba Rusnak Alfa Romeo v. FCA US LLC	snak Alfa Romeo v. R: Maile Solis, Randy	
20. PR-2511-17* 1-23-17	All Protestants signed a PSDO	Niello Italian Imports, Inc., dba Niello Alfa Romeo v. FCA US LLC	P: Christian Scali R: Maile Solis, Randy Oyler, Bob Davies, Mary Stewart	Modification
21. PR-2512-17* 1-23-17	Case is tracking corresponding Alfa Romeo/Fiat matters	Niello Italian Imports, Inc., dba Niello Maserati v. Maserati North America, Inc.  P: Christian Scali R: Maile Solis, Randy Oyler, Bob Davies, Mary Stewart		Modification
22. PR-2514-17 2-2-17	All Protestants signed a PSDO	HWM Auto Corp., dba McKevitt Fiat of Berkeley v. FCA US LLC	P: Gavin Hughes, Robert Mayville R: Maile Solis, Randy Oyler, Bob Davies, Mary Stewart	Modification
23. PR-2515-17 2-2-17	All Protestants signed a PSDO	HWM Auto Corp., dba McKevitt Alfa Romeo v. FCA US LLC	P: Gavin Hughes, Robert Mayville R: Maile Solis, Randy Oyler, Bob Davies, Mary Stewart	Modification

CASE NUMBER/ DATE FILED	STATUS	Protest	Counsel	CASE Type
24. PR-2518-17 4-3-17	RSC: 9-10-18	Shingle Springs Imports, Inc. dba Shingle Springs Honda v. American Honda Motor Co., Inc.	P: Gavin Hughes, Robert Mayville R: Patricia Britton, S. Keith Hutto, Steve McKelvey, Steven McFarland	Termination
25. PR-2523-17 6-12-17	ROB: 8-21-18 HRC: 1-14-19 MH: 2-13-19 (7 days)	O'Gara Coach Company, LLC, a liability company, dba Aston Martin Beverly Hills v. Aston Martin Loganda of North America, Inc.	P: Christian Scali, Bert Rasmussen R: Colm Moran	Termination
26. PR-2526-17 8-11-17	Parties working on settlement	HTMC, LLC, dba Subaru El Cajon v. Subaru of America, Inc.	P: Gavin Hughes, Robert Mayville R: Maurice Sanchez, Lisa M. Gibson	Termination
27. PR-2539-17 10-13-17	MTD Hearing: 8-2-18 HRC: 8-24-18 MH: 9-25-18 (15 days)	Barber Group, Inc., a California corporation doing business as Barber Honda v. American Honda Motor Co., Inc., a California corporation	P: Grover H. Waldon, Charles D. Melton, Gavin Hughes, Robert Mayville R: Patricia Britton, S. Keith Hutto, Steven B. McFarland I: Alan Skobin, John Tuell	Establishment
28. PR-2541-17 10-30-17	Parties working on settlement. IFU: 8-27-18	Premier Nissan of San Joes, LLC v. Nissan North America	P: Richard J. Ritchie R: Steven M. Kelso, David J. Schaller, H. Camille Papini- Chapla, Esq.	Franchisor Incentive

CASE NUMBER/ DATE FILED	STATUS	Protest	Counsel	CASE Type
29. PR-2542-17 11-13-17	ROB: 8-29-18 Initial HRC: 12-17-18 Preliminary Hearing: 1-14-19 (5 days) HRC: 2-8-19 MH: 2-25-19 (10 days)	Putnam Automotive, Inc., dba Putnam Subaru v. Subaru of America, Inc.  P: Gavin Hughes, Robert Mayville R: Mo Sanchez, Lisa Gibson		Modification Satellite Warranty Facility
30. PR-2553-18 1-26-18	ROB: 8-29-18 HRC: 2-8-19 MH: 2-25-19 (10 days)	Putnam Automotive, Inc., dba Putnam Subaru v. Subaru of America, Inc.	Putnam Subaru v. Robert Mayville	
31. PR-2559-18 3-16-18	Opposition: 8-8-18 Reply: 8-15-18 MTD Hearing: 8-23-18	Asian Pacific Industries, Inc., dba Jaguar Land Rover Stevens Creek (Jaguar) v. Jaguar Land Rover North America, LLC	P: Gavin Hughes, Robert Mayville R: Colm Moran, John J. Sullivan	Franchisor Incentive
32. PR-2560-18* 3-16-18	Opposition: 8-8-18 Reply: 8-15-18 MTD Hearing: 8-23-18	Asian Pacific Industries, Inc., dba Jaguar Land Rover Stevens Creek (Land Rover) v. Jaguar Land Rover North America, LLC	P: Gavin Hughes, Robert Mayville R: Colm Moran, John J. Sullivan	Franchisor Incentive
33. PR-2561-18* 3-16-18	Opposition: 8-8-18 Reply: 8-15-18 MTD Hearing: 8-23-18	ARBM, Inc., dba Jaguar Livermore v. Jaguar Land Rover North America, LLC	P: Gavin Hughes, Robert Mayville R: Colm Moran, John J. Sullivan	Franchisor Incentive
34. PR-2562-18* 3-16-18	Opposition: 8-8-18 Reply: 8-15-18 MTD Hearing: 8-23-18	ARBM, Inc., dba Land Rover Livermore v. Jaguar Land Rover North America, LLC	P: Gavin Hughes, Robert Mayville R: Colm Moran, John J. Sullivan	Franchisor Incentive

CASE NUMBER/ DATE FILED	STATUS	Protest	Counsel	CASE Type
35. PR-2563-18* 3-16-18	Opposition: 8-8-18 Reply: 8-15-18 MTD Hearing: 8-23-18	British Motor Car Distributors, LTD., dba Jaguar San Francisco v. Jaguar Land Rover North America, LLC P: Gavin Hughes, Robert Mayville R: Colm Moran, John J. Sullivan		Franchisor Incentive
36. PR-2564-18* 3-16-18	Opposition: 8-8-18 Reply: 8-15-18 MTD Hearing: 8-23-18	British Motor Car Distributors, LTD., dba Land Rover San Francisco v. Jaguar Land Rover North America, LLC P: Gavin Hughes, Robert Mayville R: Colm Moran, John J. Sullivan		Franchisor Incentive
37. PR-2565-18 4-4-18	HRC: 11-2-18 MH: 12-3-18 (5 days)	Burger Auto Group, LLC, dba Carl Burger Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram World (Chrysler) v. FCA US LLC  P: Gavin Hughes, Robert Mayville R: Mark T. Clouatre, John P. Streelman, Crispin Collins		Franchisor Incentive
38. PR-2566-18* 4-4-18	HRC: 11-2-18 MH: 12-3-18 (5 days)	Burger Auto Group, LLC, dba Carl Burger Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram World (Dodge) v. FCA US LLC	P: Gavin Hughes, Robert Mayville R: Mark T. Clouatre, John P. Streelman, Crispin Collins	Franchisor Incentive
39. PR-2567-18* 4-4-18	HRC: 11-2-18 MH: 12-3-18 (5 days)	Burger Auto Group, LLC, dba Carl Burger Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram World (Jeep) v. FCA US LLC	P: Gavin Hughes, Robert Mayville R: Mark T. Clouatre, John P. Streelman, Crispin Collins	Franchisor Incentive
40. PR-2568-18* 4-4-18	HRC: 11-2-18 MH: 12-3-18 (5 days)	Burger Auto Group, LLC, dba Carl Burger Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram World (Ram) v. FCA US LLC  P: Gavin Hughes, Robert Mayville R: Mark T. Clouatre, John P. Streelman, Crispin Collins		Franchisor Incentive
41. PR-2569-18 4-26-18	MTD: 8-3-18 Opposition: 8-17-18 Reply: 8-24-18 Hearing: 8-30-18	RV's-4-Less, Inc., dba RVs 4 Less v. Eclipse Recreational Vehicles, Inc.  Recreational Vehicles, Inc.  R: Frederick Kosmo, Jr., Beth Wendle		Termination

#### BY CASE NUMBER

#### Petitions

CASE NUMBER/ DATE FILED	STATUS	PETITION	Counsel
		None Pending	

Appeals

CASE NUMBER/ DATE FILED	Status	APPEAL	Counsel
		None Pending	

# C. JUDICIAL REVIEW

#### **Judicial Review**

Either the Protestant/Petitioner/Appellant or Respondent seeks judicial review of the Board's Decision or Final Order by way of a petition for writ of administrative mandamus (Code of Civil Procedure, § 1094.5). The writ of mandamus may be denominated a writ of mandate (Code of Civil Procedure, § 1084).

1. <u>ASIAN PACIFIC INDUSTRIES, INC., dba JAGUAR LAND ROVER STEVENS CREEK; ARBM, INC., dba JAGUAR LIVERMORE and LAND ROVER LIVERMORE; and BRITISH MOTOR CAR DISTRIBUTORS, LTD., dba JAGUAR SAN FRANCISCO and LAND ROVER SAN FRANCISCO v. CALIFORNIA NEW MOTOR VEHICLE BOARD; JAGUAR LAND ROVER NORTH AMERICA, LLC, Real Party in Interest</u>

California Superior Court, Sacramento County Case No. 34-2018-80002866 New Motor Vehicle Board No. CRT-275-18

Protest Nos. PR-2530-17, PR-2532-17, PR-2544-17, PR-2546-17, PR- 2548-17 and PR-2550-17

At the March 13, 2018, General Meeting, the Public Members adopted as amended ALJ Anthony M. Skrocki's Proposed Order Granting Motion of Respondent Jaguar Land Rover North America, LLC (JLRNA) to Dismiss for Lack of Jurisdiction. The six modification protests were dismissed with prejudice and the six incentive protests were dismissed without prejudice. The incentive protests are not at issue in the writ.

The modification protests were based upon claims by the Protestants that the Business Builder Bonus Program ("BBBP") is part of their franchises so modification of the BBBP constitutes modification of their franchises, that the modifications of their franchises substantially affect their sales or service obligations or investment, and that JLRNA failed to provide the notices to the Protestants and the Board as required by Vehicle Code section 3060(b).

For the Board to have jurisdiction to hear and consider a modification protest there must be: (1) A modification of the "franchise"; and, (2) the modification must substantially affect the franchisee's sales or service obligations or investment. The ALJ found that the franchises for Jaguar and Land Rover vehicles consist of the Dealer Agreement and the Standard Provisions for Jaguar or Land Rover and the Performance Agreement for Jaguar or the Letter of Intent for Land Rover. However, the ALJ found that the terms of the BBBP (an incentive program) are not part of either franchise, so modification of the BBBP does not constitute modification of the franchise.

On April 11, 2018, Petitioners filed and served a Joint Verified Petition for Writ of Administrative Mandate and Writ of Traditional Mandate in Sacramento County Superior Court.

Petitioners seek a writ of administrative mandate or alternatively traditional mandate directing the Board to set aside and vacate its Decision dated March 13, 2018, as it relates to the modification protests and to adopt and issue a new and different decision denying JLRNA's motion to dismiss or alternatively hear additional evidence related to whether the BBBP is part of Petitioners' franchises.

Petitioners contend that the Board abused its discretion because the Board's findings are not supported by the evidence, the Board's Decision is not supported by the findings, and the Board's hearing did not proceed in a manner required by law. Petitioners argue that the Board ignored the fact that the Performance Agreement and Letter of Intent are explicitly part of and incorporated into both the Jaguar and Land Rover Dealer Agreements. This evidences that the BBBP is part of each dealers' franchise. Furthermore, Petitioners argue that the BBBP significantly influences the pricing and sale of vehicles, reduces margins between invoice and MSRP, participation is required, and each iteration of the program is a "modification of material terms of the franchises." Lastly, Petitioners maintain that the Board abused its discretion and made errors of law in dismissing their arguments that "JLRNA's efforts to modify its pricing according to the BBB Program violates the covenant of good faith and fair dealing..."

Kathryn Doi, Vice Board President, has determined that there is not a state interest at issue in the writ so the Board will not participate via the Attorney General's Office.

JLRNA filed its Verified Answer on May 14, 2018. The hearing is on January 11, 2019, at 11:00 a.m. in Department 28.

#### 2. <u>NISSAN NORTH AMERICA, INC.</u> v. <u>NEW MOTOR VEHICLE BOARD; WEST COVINA NISSAN, LLC, Real Party in Interest</u>

California Superior Court, Orange County Case No. 30-2017-00956529 New Motor Vehicle Board No. CRT-274-17 Protest No. PR-2478-16

On October 30, 2017, ALJ Woodward Hagle issued an "Order Denying Respondent's Motion to Dismiss Protest for Lack of Jurisdiction after Sale of Dealership Assets." The issue in this motion was: "does the Board retain jurisdiction to hear and decide a warranty reimbursement claims protest pursuant to Section 3065 after a transaction which divested protestant of its dealership?" This was a case of first impression. The ALJ determined that Respondent "failed to meet its burden of proof. The Board has continuing jurisdiction over the protest and may render a Decision in the matter, despite the fact that West Covina Nissan is no longer a Nissan dealer. Not only did all events alleged in the protest occur while protestant was a Nissan dealer, but the warranty reimbursement claims protest and protest procedures are within the Board's exclusive statutory authority. The matter has been pending since August 11, 2016 and discovery has not been stayed. The Board has special expertise in these matters to adjudicate the claim." Since the order was not dispositive of the protest, it was not considered by the Public Members.

On November 17, 2017, Nissan North America, Inc. ("Nissan") filed a Petition for Writ of Administrative Mandate in the Orange County Superior Court; the Board was served on November 20, 2017. Nissan argues that no court has ruled and no statute provides that the Board may adjudicate disputes between a former franchisee and its former franchisor. Nissan contends the ALJ's Order is wrong because the Board has no jurisdiction to decide any matter not involving a current dealer/franchisee and that when West Covina Nissan sold its Nissan dealership, it lost the ability to appear before the Board. It further argues that the Court has jurisdiction in this matter under two exceptions to the doctrine of exhaustion of administrative remedies.

Kathryn Doi, Vice President and Attorney Member, determined there is a State interest at issue in the writ so the Board will participate via the Attorney General's Office. The writ challenges the Board's jurisdiction and could affect future Board cases. Michael Gowe, Deputy Attorney General, has been retained to represent the Board.

Nissan's Ex Parte Motion to Stay was denied on November 28, 2017. Nissan also filed a Motion to Stay that was heard on January 8, 2018, and ultimately denied. The Board's answer was filed February 2, 2018.

A case management conference set for April 23, 2018, was continued to April 30, 2018, to allow the filing of the administrative record and counsel were ordered to meet and confer on a trial date and briefing schedule. The parties proposed: Petitioner's opening brief due May 11, 2018; Respondent and/or Real Party in Interest's opposition due May 31, 2018; Petitioner's reply brief due June 11, 2018. The hearing is tentatively set for Monday, June 25, 2018, at 1:30 p.m. in Department C31.

On May 8, 2018, Nissan filed a Notice of Conditional Settlement so the parties could avoid filing the briefs in response to the writ. This matter should be dismissed no later than August 6, 2018. On June 25, 2018, the Court issued a minute order setting an Order to Show Cause re: Dismissal of Settled Case for September 24, 2018, at 11:00 a.m. in Department C31.

3. FIAT CHRYSLER AUTOMOBILES US LLC v. CALIFORNIA NEW MOTOR VEHICLE BOARD; DEPENDABLE DODGE, INC., Real Party in Interest California Superior Court, Sacramento County Case No. 34-2017-80002584 New Motor Vehicle Board No. CRT-273-17 Protest Nos. PR-2435-15 and PR-2436-15

At the March 15, 2017, General Meeting, the Public Members of the Board adopted ALJ Kymberly Pipkin's Proposed Decision as the Board's final Decision. The Decision sustained the consolidated Protests and did not permit FCA to terminate Dependable's RAM and Dodge franchises. On April 24, 2017, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles US, LLC's ("FCA") filed a "Petition for Writ of Administrative Mandate and Writ of Traditional Mandate." FCA contends that the ALJ denied it a fair hearing and prejudicially abused her discretion by failing to proceed in the

manner required by law, making findings unsupported by substantial evidence, and reaching a decision unsupported by findings.

FCA seeks: (1) issuance of a writ of administrative mandamus or alternatively traditional mandate, directing the Board to set aside and vacate its Decision and to adopt and issue a new and different decision overruling Dependable's protests and allowing the termination of its FCA Dealer Agreements. Alternatively, (2) issuance of a writ of administrative mandamus or traditional mandate, directing the Board to set aside and vacate its Decision and to order a new hearing with a new ALJ.

Kathryn Doi, Vice Board President, has determined that there is not a state interest at issue in the writ so the Board will not participate via the Attorney General's Office.

Dependable Dodge, Inc., ("Dependable") filed its answer on May 30, 2017. This matter is fully briefed. The hearing was set for January 26, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 28.

On January 22, 2018, the Court vacated the January 26, 2018 hearing on the petition for writ of mandate due to Petitioner's lodging of a significant portion of the administrative record under conditional seal pending the Motion to Seal Court Records. The motion to seal originally set for March 16 was heard April 20, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. in Department 28. The Court denied the motion without prejudice because it was not narrowly tailored. The Court made no determination as to whether Petitioner waived its right to request sealing as to some or all of the documents requested to be sealed.

On May 10, 2018, FCA filed a Renewed Motion to Seal Court Records Pursuant to California Rules of Court 2.550 and 2.551. FCA contends the record contains information that is subject to the attorney client and work product privileges. FCA maintains that it reduced the number of pages requested to be sealed by roughly 75% from its original motion. It contends this motion should be granted since the request to seal is narrowly tailored to only those pages that discuss or reference the Market Study. The Court denied the motion without prejudice with regard to documents 1 through 16 on the basis that the request is not narrowly tailored as required by Rule 2.550, subdivision (d) and emphasized by subdivision (e). With regard to the Market Study itself, the Court deferred ruling on the motion and will retain the Market Study conditionally under seal pursuant to Rule 2.551(b)(4) pending a hearing on the merits, at which time the Court will evaluate and rule on Petitioner's argument that the Market Study is privileged. The Court defers such ruling on this motion as it is inextricably intertwined with the central issue on the merits of the petition.

The hearing on the writ was set for June 15, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. in Department 28. However, the Renewed Motion to Seal Court Records was heard instead on June 15. On June 25, 2018, the Court denied the motion without prejudice with regard to specified documents 1-16 on the basis the request was not narrowly tailored. With regard to the Market Study, the Court deferred ruling on the motion

and retained the Market Study under seal pending the hearing on the merits at which time the Court will evaluate and rule on FCA's argument that the Market Study is privileged. The hearing on the writ is set for November 16, 2018, at 11:00 a.m. in Department 28.

4. TOYOTA MOTOR SALES, U.S.A., INC., a California corporation v. CALIFORNIA NEW MOTOR VEHICLE BOARD, a California state agency; PUTNAM MOTORS, INC. dba PUTNAM LEXUS, a California corporation, Real Party in Interest

California Superior Court, Sacramento County Case No. 34-2015-80002081 New Motor Vehicle Board No. CRT-270-15

By letter dated March 20, 2015, Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc. ("Toyota") requested that the Board grant it permission to conduct a warranty audit from September 2010 to the present "based on a pattern of false claims for warranty and recall service submitted by Putnam Motors, Inc. dba Putnam Lexus ('Putnam Lexus') with the intent to defraud Lexus and Lexus customers." The period requested is beyond the 9 months provided for in Vehicle Code section 3065 and required a Board order. After a lengthy discussion, at the March 25, 2015, General meeting, the Public Members denied Toyota's request.

On April 24, 2015, Toyota filed a Petition for Writ of Administrative Mandate in the Sacramento County Superior Court. Toyota contends that the Board's denial of its "request for an extended audit constitutes an abuse of discretion because the Board's Order ... [was] not supported by the evidence and because the Board has unlawfully adopted unwritten standards that manufacturers allegedly must follow before obtaining [such] an order..." which, is a violation of the Administrative Procedure Act. Putnam Lexus filed its answer on June 8, 2015.

Glenn Stevens, Board President at the time, determined that there is not a state interest at issue in the writ so the Board will not participate via the Attorney General's Office.

This matter is fully briefed. The hearing originally scheduled for April 29, 2016, was continued to October 7, 2016, March 3, 2017, August 4, 2017, February 23, 2018, and was set for June 29, 2018, to allow the parties to continue settlement discussions.

On April 5, 2018, the parties submitted a Stipulation of Dismissal with Prejudice. On April 10, 2018, this matter was dismissed with prejudice and the case is closed.

# D. NOTICES FILED

PURSUANT TO VEHICLE CODE SECTIONS 3060/3070 AND 3062/3072

#### NOTICES FILED

# PURSUANT TO VEHICLE CODE SECTIONS 3060/3070 AND 3062/3072

FEBRUARY 28, 2018 THROUGH JULY 30, 2018

These are generally notices relating to termination or modification (sections 3060 and 3070) and establishment, relocation, or off-site sales (sections 3062 and 3072).

<b>SECTION 3060/3070</b>	No.	SECTION 3062/3072	No.
ACURA		ACURA	
AUDI		AUDI	
BMW		BMW (includes Mini)	
FCA (Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, RAM)	1	FCA (Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, RAM)	1
FCA (Alfa Romeo, FIAT)		FCA (Alfa Romeo, FIAT)	
FCA (Maserati)		FCA (Maserati)	
FERRARI		FERRARI	
FORD		FORD	
GM	5	GM (Buick)	
HARLEY-DAVIDSON		HARLEY-DAVIDSON	
HONDA		HONDA	
HYUNDAI		HYUNDAI	
INFINITI		INFINITI	
JAGUAR		JAGUAR	
KAWASAKI		KAWASAKI	
KTM		KTM	
KIA		KIA	
LEXUS		LEXUS	
MAZDA	2	MAZDA	
MERCEDES		MERCEDES	
MITSUBISHI		MITSUBISHI	
NISSAN		NISSAN	
POLARIS	4	POLARIS	
PORSCHE		PORSCHE	
SAAB-SCANIA		SAAB-SCANIA	
SUBARU		SUBARU	
SUZUKI		SUZUKI	
TOYOTA		TOYOTA	
VOLKSWAGEN		VOLKSWAGEN	
VOLVO		VOLVO	
YAMAHA		YAMAHA	
MISCELLANEOUS	3	MISCELLANEOUS	
TOTAL	15	TOTAL	1